

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 17, 2005. Claims 1 to 3, 5 to 11, 13 to 19, 21 to 21 and 29 to 44 are in the application, of which Claims 1, 9, 17, 25, 33, 36, 39 and 42 are independent.

Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

A new title has been selected.

The Office Action entered a rejection of all claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for alleged failure to comply with the written description requirement. A corresponding objection to the drawings was also lodged.^{1/} In response, the claims have been amended so that they generally recite a spooler, a processor and a previewer. Applicants welcome this opportunity to demonstrate full compliance with the written description requirement, as follows.

More particularly, and referring to one representative embodiment of the invention described in the specification, the claimed spooler corresponds to spooler 302 of Figure 3, the claimed processor corresponds to CPU 101 of Figure 1, and the claimed previewer corresponds to previewer 306 of Figure 6. The spooler converts data to be printed into intermediate-code-formatted data and temporarily stores the intermediate-code-formatted data together with print setting information as one print job in a spool file.

^{1/}In a telephone interview conducted on March 7, 2005, the Examiner indicated that page 4 of the Office Action inadvertently omitted several lines of text. More particularly, the Examiner indicated that he had intended the text beginning at line 6 of page 4 to be virtually identical to corresponding text beginning at line 7 of page 2. This Amendment is written based on the Examiner's advice from this March 7 telephone interview.

The print setting information includes layout information specified via a user interface of a printer driver. A plurality of such print jobs are spooled by the spooler. The processor forms one composed job by composing the plurality of spooled print jobs. The previewer obtains respective layout information of the plurality of composed print jobs and outputs drawing data edited in accordance with the respective layout information so as to control a display screen to display a preview of the composed job. When controlling display of the preview of the composed print job, the previewer controls the display screen to display the preview indicating that the respective page layout of the plurality of print jobs is maintained.

The specification clearly explains that the intermediate-code-formatted data is spooled together with the print setting information, such as the job setting information 1002 of Figure 10. The job setting information 1002 is related to job ID information 1001 as shown in Figure 10, and therefore it is clear that the job setting information is spooled in spool file 303 in correspondence to the intermediate-code-formatted data. One example of such a description is found commencing at line 16 on page 17, and another is found commencing at line 17 of page 21.

In view of the foregoing explanation, it is believed that the claims herein comply fully with the written description requirement, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Likewise, it is believed that the above explanation addresses the objection to the drawings, and withdrawal of the drawing objection is therefore respectfully requested.

The Office Action further entered a rejection of all claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for an apparent inconsistency in the claims which was explained at page 5 of the Office Action. It is believed that the foregoing amendment addresses this apparent inconsistency, and withdrawal of the § 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

New Claims 33 to 44 have been added and are believed to recite patentable subject matter. Each claim concerns information processing by which print data is formed for transmission to a printing apparatus, and includes a designation of a plurality of document data stored in a memory so as to print the plurality of document data as one composed print job at the printing apparatus, wherein each of the plurality of document data is associated with layout information that indicates a number of logical pages to be printed on one physical page. The composed print job is formed by composing the plurality of document data so designated. Respective layout information of the plurality of document data is obtained, and drawing data which has been edited in accordance with the respective layout information is output so as to control display of a preview of the composed print job. When controlling display of the preview of the composed print job, the display is controlled such that there is an indication that the respective page layout of the plurality of document data is maintained.

It is Applicants' view that the art of record does not disclose or suggest the foregoing arrangement, and allowance of Claims 33 to 44 is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", written over a horizontal line.

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